Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/04/27 : CIA-RDP79T00936A008100230001-2

The President's Daily Brief

27 March 1970

47

Top Secret 50X1

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/04/27 : CIA-RDP79T00936A008100230001-2

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/04/27 : CIA-RDP79T00936A008100230001-2

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

27 March 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

[redacted] 50X1

[redacted] *(Page 1)* 50X1

In Cambodia, the Communists have begun to organize pro-Sihanouk demonstrations. The government is apprehensive and is using troops to maintain order in affected areas. *(Page 2)*

[redacted] Cambodian - South Vietnamese [redacted] 50X1

[redacted] 50X1

[redacted] *(Page 3)* 50X1

[redacted] 50X1

[redacted] North Vietnamese troops in the vicinity of Long Tieng appear to be experiencing difficulty in sustaining their offensive. *(Page 4)* 50X1

West German [redacted] 50X1

[redacted] 50X1

[redacted] *(Page 5)* 50X1

Lebanon is still tense, with Christian opposition to fedayeen operations continuing. [redacted] 50X1

[redacted] *(Page 6)* 50X1

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/04/27 : CIA-RDP79T00936A008100230001-2

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/04/27 : CIA-RDP79T00936A008100230001-2

ISRAEL-USSR-EGYPT

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/04/27 : CIA-RDP79T00936A008100230001-2

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/04/27 : CIA-RDP79T00936A008100230001-2

CAMBODIA

The first signs of organized pro-Sihanouk sentiment appeared yesterday when Communist elements stirred up anti-government demonstrations in four provinces to the east of Phnom Penh, all of which border on South Vietnam. Government apprehension about the situation is reflected in orders to withdraw some troops from the South Vietnamese frontier in order to defend affected provincial capitals. All military regions have been ordered to halt traffic headed for Phnom Penh. The national capital airport was closed again today, and two bridges spanning the Mekong connecting Phnom Penh with eastern provinces were sealed with tanks.

In the capital and other areas of the country the situation is still quiet as the new leaders tighten their control.

North Vietnamese and Viet Cong diplomatic representatives in Phnom Penh were called in by the new government for talks yesterday. Neither side has formally broken relations yet [redacted] 50X1

50X1

Despite the seemingly substantial degree of Communist Chinese inspiration for Sihanouk's recent pronouncements, Peking, unlike Hanoi, has not explicitly given public support for Sihanouk's return to power. The Chinese are thus in a position to support and perhaps help arrange a modus vivendi between the Vietnamese Communists and the new Cambodian Government. If this should prove impossible, the Chinese probably would back Hanoi and Sihanouk in more forceful measures.

The Soviets are clearly unhappy over the prospects of a wider Indo-Chinese war, as indicated by their failure even to acknowledge Sihanouk's recent inflammatory statements. They are also concerned lest China turn the situation in Cambodia to its advantage. Until the situation clarifies, Moscow will probably remain on the sidelines.

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/04/27 : CIA-RDP79T00936A008100230001-2

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/04/27 : CIA-RDP79T00936A008100230001-2

SOUTH VIETNAM - CAMBODIA

There is increasing evidence of cooperation between South Vietnamese and Cambodian forces in cross-border operations against Communist base areas. 50X1

Since last weekend's large South Vietnamese incursion into Cambodia, efforts have been made to seal the border where possible so that Communist units can be entrapped if they attempt to leave Cambodia.

The Communists, meanwhile, are apparently still adjusting to the uncertainties of the situation in Cambodia. The enemy headquarters in South Vietnam (COSVN) has reportedly ordered all Communist military units in border areas to remain stationary, avoid clashes with Cambodian troops, and help create an atmosphere conducive to negotiations with the new government in Phnom Penh. In some areas along the border, however, COSVN has called for the transfer of ordnance, foodstuffs, and medical facilities to South Vietnam to prevent critical supplies from falling into the hands of Cambodian military forces.

Although there has been no hard evidence to date of any significant enemy troop withdrawals from Cambodia into Vietnam, reports of COSVN's intention to relocate its headquarters facilities from Cambodia northward to the sanctuary of the Lao panhandle persist. In most areas along the border, however, the Communists appear to be adopting a wait-and-see attitude pending instructions from Hanoi on precisely how to cope with the new situation.

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/04/27 : CIA-RDP79T00936A008100230001-2

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/04/27 : CIA-RDP79T00936A008100230001-2

LAOS

Prime Minister Souvanna is canvassing various political and regional factions in an attempt to develop a consensus on how best to deal officially with the Lao Communist peace proposal. 50X1

On the military front, the North Vietnamese appear to be experiencing some difficulty in sustaining operations in the vicinity of Long Tieng. 50X1

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/04/27 : CIA-RDP79T00936A008100230001-2

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/04/27 : CIA-RDP79T00936A008100230001-2

WEST GERMANY

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/04/27 : CIA-RDP79T00936A008100230001-2

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/04/27 : CIA-RDP79T00936A008100230001-2

LEBANON

Tension remains high in Beirut. Sporadic firing continued yesterday around the headquarters of the Christian Phalanges Party, while the commandos were reported to be mobilizing Palestinian militia in various refugee camps. [redacted] 50X1

[redacted] 50X1

[redacted] 50X1

[redacted] 50X1

[redacted] 50X1

[redacted] 50X1

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/04/27 : CIA-RDP79T00936A008100230001-2

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/04/27 : CIA-RDP79T00936A008100230001-2

Top Secret

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/04/27 : CIA-RDP79T00936A008100230001-2